Dear Washington State Building Code Council,

I urge you to pass the full package of proposed updates to the commercial energy code that will electrify and make more energy efficient all buildings that are permitted starting in 2023.

Buildings are one of the largest and fastest-growing sources of climate pollution in Washington – and we're consuming more and more energy as our state's population increases. Buildings contribute about one-quarter (23%) of Washington state's carbon emissions, more than the industrial sector, because much of buildings' energy consumption is powered by natural gas.

Despite gas industry assertions to the contrary, going all-electric can be inexpensive, in many cases saves money now, and certainly will in the future. According to the 2021 Washington State Energy Strategy, the lowest cost pathway for achieving our state's commitment to climate pollutants relies on electrifying our buildings.

We don't have time to waste. With the opportunity to update our building energy codes arising only once every three years, we can't wait until the next update cycle or later to do this. Please support the full package of proposed Commercial Energy Code updates now!

Help us protect our community, our climate, and our future.

Thank you,

Cherie Holman 3999 Chiquita Lane Anacortes WA 98221